

REMSEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MAY 9, 2023

"All Remsen students will Soar to Success"

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Lou Allen, Brian Parent, Patrick Nolan, Jeannie Scouten (Stephanie Karis arrived at 7:00 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Timothy Jenny, John McKeown, Sanya Pelrah, Gary Winghart, Olivia Woolheater, Kevin Roberts, Adam DeGrace, Kelly Runninger, Carlleen Taylor, Catherine Chandler, James Joslin, Tara Kennerknect

Mr. John McKeown and Mr. Timothy Jenny held the Budget hearing presentation from 6:00 p.m. to 6:40 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Mary Lou Allen, Board President, at 6:41 p.m. following the budget hearing.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by all present.

Mrs. Allen read the following statement: Public Participation - We are about to convene into the public comment period of our meeting. Any district resident wishing to speak during public session is required to sign in, stating your full name, address, contact information and the topic that you wish to discuss. If you have not signed in and you wish to speak, the District Clerk will bring the sign-in sheet over to you at this time. We will insist that all speakers and members of the audience maintain civility and respect. The board will now entertain public comments for up to a maximum of 30 minutes. Each individual speaker will be allotted three minutes. Please be reminded that written comments or concerns to be shared with the Board may also be submitted or emailed District Clerk, Ms. Olivia Woolheater or to the Superintendent, Mr. Timothy Jenny at any time.

No public participation this evening

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approved the minutes from the meeting held on April 4, 2023 and April 25, 2023; and it be further resolved that the Board of Education approve Warrants for Payment; Treasurer’s Report; accept Revenue Status Report; and Appropriation Status Report.”

Vote: 4 yes; 0 no

Elementary Principal's report given by Gary Winghart included the following items:

- **Upcoming Events:** May 8-12: Spirit week. May 12: Pre-K Mother's Day Event. May 18: STEAM Club Family Fun Night. May 25-26: Kindergarten screening. May 29: Memorial Day. May 31: Grades 4-6 Spring Concert. June 9: Elementary Career Day.
- **Arbor Day Assembly:** On April 28th, the Elementary school celebrated Arbor day with a special assembly and trees for every student provided by the Saratoga Tree Nursery. At the end of the day, all students came together for an assembly where Ranger Chris Pelrah and Forester Dan Welc spoke with the students about the importance of trees, how to protect and preserve forests, and the history of Arbor Day.
- **Personal Safety Lessons:** On May 3rd, Sergeant Morgan visited the Elementary school to speak with students about personal safety. Ms. Kistowski and Sergeant Morgan met with kindergarteners, first graders, and third graders to discuss the importance of being safe and checking in with trusted adults.
- **NYS Assessments:** The NYS ELA Assessments began on April 19th. The NYS Math Assessments took place on May 2nd. All Assessments went well and all of the students worked very hard.
- **Around the School:** Spring Spirit Week: The Spring Spirit week is being sponsored by the Elementary Student Council. The students are enjoying the fun dress up days such as Wacky Inside Out Wednesday, Patriotic Day, and Black and Orange Day. Kids Heart Challenge: The students have raised close to \$5,000 this year for the American Heart Association during the Kids Heart Challenge Campaign. Water Safari Reading Challenge: Students have the opportunity to earn one free child admission to Enchanted Forest Water Safari theme park. Throughout the months of April and May students are challenged to read a total of 6 hours outside of school. Any student that logs 6 hours or more during the challenge will receive a ticket for free admission.
- **New Elementary Lockers:** Students in grades 4 through h6 are excited about the new elementary lockers. The orange and black lockers add a little color to the hallway and encourage Remsen pride.

High School Principal's report given by Sanya Pelrah included the following items:

- **Team Workshop and Instructional Focus:** There was a Staff-Led Professional Development on April 25th. This opportunity was designed by the High School Instructional Committee as a way for teachers to share their knowledge and learn from each other.
- **Culture and Climate:** at the end of the marking period, we did the Ram Ticket Drawings and our students were awarded \$25 gift cards. On April 27th, Ashley Neuschel from the Center of Family Life and Recovery, presented to grades 7-12 about the hazards of vaping. On May 1, Mr. Bunker took a group of the 9th grade students to Law Day at the Oneida County Courthouse where students were able to learn about the legal system and talk to district attorneys. On May 4, Sergeant Morgan, from the Oneida County Sheriff's Office, presented the students attending prom about how to stay safe and make good decisions.

- **Clubs and Activities:**

12th grade: The senior class has chosen to go to Niagara Falls for their Senior Trip on June 9th. The class was able to cover all major expenses.

11th grade: The 11th grade class participated in the Krispy Kreme fundraiser and are planning to survey their class regarding next years' prom and senior trip.

Drama Club: The members of the Drama Club enjoyed dinner and seeing the musical *Legally Blonde* in Utica.

FFA: The FFA Club is preparing for the FFA Plant Sale on May 16th. On May 18th the students will be competing in the Food Science and Agriscience Fair at the FFA Convention in Buffalo.

International Club: The club held a Cinco de Mayo meeting where members were able to make their own piñatas.

Music Department: On May 12 and 13th, students from grades 5-11 will be attending NYSSMA Solo Festival at Central Valley Academy in Illion; On May 20, the High School Band and Chorus members will be performing at the Remsen Arts Festival held at the Remsen Performing and Visual Arts Center. On May 24, the High School Band will be performing at NYSSMA Majors Festival at Holland Patent. On June 3, the High School Band and Chorus will perform at the Music in the Parks Festival held at Darien Lake. The Junior and Senior High School Spring Concert will be on June 7 at 7 p.m. in the High School gym.

National Honor Society: Members of the NHS participated in the Remsen Earth Day Cleanup on April 22.

Athletic Director's Report given by Dale Denning included the following items:

- **Important Dates:** May 11: Modified Track & Field Meet. May 16: Track & Field – CSC League Championships at Waterville. May 21: Sectional Seeding Meeting – Baseball/Softball. May 22: Sectionals at Carlowden Golf Course – Varsity Boys Golf. May 23: Sectionals at Kannon Valley Golf Course – Varsity Girls Golf. May 26: Track & Field – Class D Championships at West Canada Valley.
- **Spring Sports:** In grades 7 – 12 there is approximately 60% of our students participating in modified and varsity spring sports.
- **Senior Recognition Dates:** May 9: Varsity Track & Field vs. Poland, NY Mills. May 18: Varsity Baseball and Varsity Softball vs. Poland.
- **Combinations:** Cross Country – Old Forge and Remsen (Host) for boys and girls at the modified level for the Fall 2023 season. Football – Remsen and Holland Patent (Host) for football at the modified, JV, and varsity levels for the Fall 2023 season.

Facilities Report given by Kevin Roberts included the following items:

- **2023 Capital Outlay Project:** New Elementary lockers. Most of the lockers have been installed.
- **Next Capital Improvement Project:** The scope of work has been determined. The district is working on financial piece.
- **Lead in the Drinking Water Testing:** The NYSDOH has lowered the threshold for lead in the applicable water outlets from 15ppm to 5ppm. This new round of testing must be

completed between 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2025. The testing must be conducted on a triannual basis after the test is completed. Currently awaiting direction from the OHM BOCES Safety Office on further guidance.

- **Easter Sunday Electrical Brown Out:** We suffered damage from the electrical brown out on Easter Sunday. Voltage dropped to around 60 volts in the area and lasted around 4 hours. The brown out damaged the 2 Variable Speed Pump Drive Controllers at the High School. The speed pumps have been disassembled with the help of Trane technicians and are waiting for parts to rebuild.
- **Department Updates:** One of our retirees has been filling in for our injured grounds worker.

Transportation report given by Adam DeGrace included the following items:

- **Bus Inspections:** There was bus inspections of buses 99, 94, 96, 11, and 15. All buses passed inspecting making this the fourth year of buses passing inspections within the first inspection.
- **Bus Fleet Updates:** The buses are in good condition. Orders for next years' supplies are being placed. The new Suburban is now in service and we have handed the old Suburban to the Senior Custodian, Kevin Roberts.
- **Bus Driver News:** All drivers are current on their qualifications. Our trainee passed their road test 1st time up. Mrs. Justine Johnson has been a great help during the training process. Our team is working on summer maintenance.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from meeting held on March 27, March 28, April 3, April 6, April 18, April 19, April 20, April 21, April 25, April 27, April 28, and May 2, 2023. Please be reminded that discussion of a specific IEP should be referred to Executive Session.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Patrick Nolan, second by Stephanie Karis:

WHEREAS, it is the plan of a number of PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS and the MADISON-ONEIDA BOCES (the "BOCES") during the 2023-2024 school year to bid jointly for the purchase of various types of computers and technology commodities (the "Commodities"); and

WHEREAS, the Remsen Central School District ("the School District") is desirous of participating in the joint bidding of the Commodities, as authorized by General Municipal Law, Article 5-G; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Education has received and reviewed the Cooperative Bid Procedures ("the Procedures") governing its right and responsibilities should it elect to participate in the joint bidding of commodities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in accordance with Cooperative Bid Procedures the Board of Education agrees to award bid purchase item purchases according to the recommendation of the BOCES if such award is in the best interest of the school district."

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopt the following policy

5102

Superintendent’s Regulation for information only:

5102.1

Unanimous vote

Board of Education Policies - First Read of Section 7000

7100	7200	7202	7500
7101	7201	7205	7601
Delete:	7103	7401	7501 7502

Superintendent’s Regulations for information only

7201.1	7203.1	7500.2
7201.2	7204.1	7500.3
7201.3	7205.1	7500.4
7201.4	7500.1	
Delete:	7501.1	7502.1

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Patrick Nolan:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the sports combine with Town of Webb Union Free School District for Cross Country 2023-2024 at the modified and varsity levels for boys and girls.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the sports combine with Holland Patent Central School District for Football 2023-2024 at the modified and varsity levels.

Unanimous vote

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Greg Bello to the position of Long Term Substitute for Nicole Nehme from May 22nd to June 23 at the daily rate of \$110.00 pending fingerprint clearance.”

Unanimous vote

Motion by Stephanie Karis, second by Jeannie Scouten:

“RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Laurie Marchesani as a Substitute Teacher at the daily rate of \$140.00.”

Unanimous vote

Information and Correspondence given to the Board included the following:

- Reminder: Annual Budget Vote and BOE Member Election May 16, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Elementary Cafeteria.
- Senior Capstone Project: The class of 2023 Senior Seminar Class invited the Board of Education Members to view their Capstone Project on June 6th at 1 p.m. in the High School Cafeteria.

Soaring to Success – Board of Education Roundtable Remarks

Board members reflected on and shared their thoughts about activities and events that occurred over the past month:

Mr. Timothy Jenny: Mr. Jenny gave thanks to all of those who helped prepare for the Budget Hearing.

Mrs. Stephanie Karis: Mrs. Karis said thank you to Mr. John McKeown and Timothy Jenny for all of their hard work and leadership that went into preparing the budget hearing.

Mrs. Mary Lou Allen: Mrs. Allen gave thanks to Ms. Woolheater for delivering the Board packets every Friday before a Board Meeting.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis to enter executive session at 7:13 p.m.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Jeannie Scouten to return to regular session at 8:59 p.m.

Motion by Brian Parent, second by Stephanie Karis to adjourn regular session at 9:00 p.m.